administrators and command functionaries; providing guidance to State level training faculties; undertaking development of national level information base for disaster management policies, prevention mechanisms and mitigation measures; and developing a comprehensive human resource development plan for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and relief.

Unified command to tackle naxal menace

2370. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 2126 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd December, 2004 and state:

(a) the details of States which have opposed unified command to fight naxal/terrorism in the country;

(b) the reasons given by the States in this regard; and

(c) the other measures being taken by Union Government for socio-economic development of concerned districts of naxal affected States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal, at present, to setup a unified command to fight naxalism.

(c) Keeping in view that the naxal problem is not merely a law and order problem, the Central Government has adopted a multi-pronged counter strategy which takes into account the security as well as development aspects of the problem.

The Government has asked the naxal affected States to intensify anti-naxalite operations keeping the door for a peace dialogue with naxal groups open. Besides reviewing and co-ordinating the steps teken by the States to counter the menace of naxalism by the Coordination Centre and the Task Force on Naxalism, the MHA provides financial assistance to the naxal affected States in the form of reimbursement of the security related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme. Funds are also provided for modernization of State police forces for upgrading the weaponry, equipment mobility, training etc. under the Police Modernization (PM) scheme to enable them to effectively meet the threat to internal security and law and order posed by the naxals.

On the development side, the Central Government has advised the States to accord a higher priority in their annual plans for the accelerated integrated development of the naxal affected districts. On its part, the Central Government has included 55 districts in 9 States badly affected by naxalism under the Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) component of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY).

Rejection of rehabilitation plan by Andaman tribals

2371. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andaman tribals have rejected the rehabilitation plan drawn up by Government in the wake of Tsunami;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have discussed the matter in the light of objections, if any; if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) No, Madam. On the contrary, keeping in view the sentiments and lifestyle of local tribals, the specifications and design of 'intermediate shelters' have been finalized in consultation with local Tribal Councils. The actual construction in tribal areas will be excuted by the beneficiaries themselves with construction material and other support services to be made available by the Central Government and A & N Administration.

Making online lottery illegal

2372. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government differentiated the online lotteries and paper lotteries in the Central Act and whether the Act imposes any restrictions on online lotteries;

(b) whether Government consider that an addictive aspect of gambling is involved in online lotteries and hence it requires restriction;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) whether Government consider to amend the Lotteries Act for making online lotteries illegal?